

The Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Superintendent's Office,

August 8, 1899.

Director of the Mint,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of August 7th, enclosing four quarter dollar pieces from a shipment of \$20,000.00 made to the Treasurer of the United States and which were found to be imperfect, I have to say that the Coiner reports to me that the roughness of the edge and the irregular impression is simply due to using a worn out die. That is to say-a die that should have been changed a considerable time before it was changed.

The foreman of the coining room has had his attention called to this fact and admonished that it must not occur again.

While on this subject I have to say that when we are running all the presses, as we are at present, the foreman of the coining room- with his assistant- two men who are charged with the duty of changing the dies, are not a sufficient force for this purpose.

The Coiner has requested a number of times that another assistant be provided. It might be better to detail, at such times as it might be necessary, one of the machinists. The force in the machine shop, however, is inadequate, and I have been waiting an opportunity to make one or more appointments, which I shall ask

D. M.

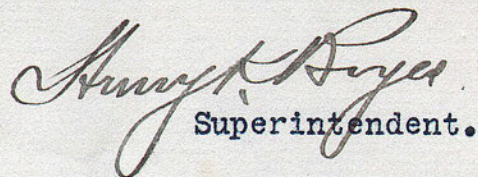
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the privilege of doing as soon as furnished with an eligible list.

The Secretary of the Mint Board of Examiners has been informed by the Civil Service Commission that he will be instructed as to the method of making up the averages in due time, but no intimation is given as to when that may occur.

I enclose four perfect coins in place of those contained in your letter.

Very respectfully,


Superintendent.

(Enclosure.)